

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 12. (Canceled).

13. (New) A rack-and-pinion electro-steering system, comprising:
a housing;
at least one thrust member/pinion pairing;
a rack extending in the housing, the rack operatively connected to the thrust member/pinion pairing; and
at least one sliding bearing arranged between the rack and the housing to guide the rack, the sliding bearing lockable by a locking geometry, the sliding bearing movable with the rack and arranged in a tooth-free region of the rack to preclude contact between the sliding bearing and the pinion.

14. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the rack-and-pinion electro-steering system is adapted to be arranged in a motor vehicle.

15. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the at least one sliding bearing includes two sliding bearings.

16. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the at least one thrust member/pinion pairing includes two pinions and one thrust member associated with each pinion, a first one of the two pinions connected to a servo side of the rack and a second one of the two pinions connected to one of (a) a sensor side of the rack and (b) a steering column.

17. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the housing is honed throughout.

18. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the housing is cylindrical and is honed throughout.

19. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is formed of plastic.

20. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is formed of a high-temperature resistant, high-performance plastic.

21. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein the sliding bearing is an injection-molded part.

22. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, further comprising one of (a) a sliding bearing and (b) a sliding bushing substantially covering a contact area arranged between a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing and a housing part surrounding the thrust member.

23. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the one of (a) the sliding bearing and (b) the sliding bushing is inserted into the housing part.

24. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the sliding bearing substantially covering the contact area is formed of plastic.

25. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 22, wherein the sliding bearing substantially covering the contact area is formed of a high-performance plastic.

26. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of plastic.

27. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of a slide-modified, high-performance plastic.

28. (New) The rack-and-pinion electro-steering system according to claim 13, wherein a thrust member of the thrust member/pinion pairing is formed of a slide-modified, high-performance injection-molded plastic